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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0102

September 22, 2003

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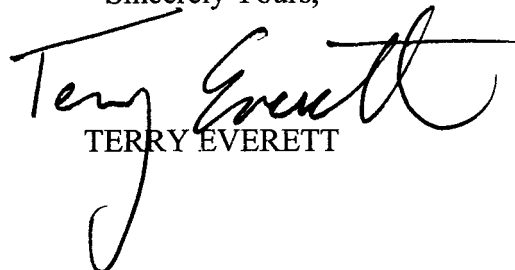
Dear Commissioners:

It is my understanding that UPS has filed for an exemption regarding the prohibition on Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers (NVOCCs) from entering into confidential contracts with their customers. I write in support of the UPS petition currently pending before the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC).

During consideration of the Ocean Shipping Reform Act (OSRA) revisions of 1998, Congress determined that NVOCCs should be regulated differently than vessel operators. In order to protect shippers and to guarantee liability coverage, Congress determined that NVOCCs should operate under a published tariff system when dealing with their customers. However, officials at UPS believe that the state of the U.S ocean shipping industry has changed since passage of OSRA, warranting changes to these regulations.

UPS believes that by granting this petition, the FMC will acknowledge these changes, level the playing field between NVOCCs and vessel operators, and ultimately benefit ocean shipping consumers around the world. I am hopeful the FMC will give the UPS petition every appropriate consideration under the law.

Sincerely Yours,


TERRY EVERETT

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